

App. No.: 10/823,005
Art Unit: 3644

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1-32. (Canceled)

33. (Currently Amended) A method of recycling water previously applied to poultry, the method comprising:

recovering a mixed peroxycarboxylic acid antimicrobial composition previously applied to poultry from a first washing position in poultry processing; and

adding to the recovered composition a sufficient amount of a mixture of peroxycarboxylic acids to yield a recycled mixed peroxycarboxylic acid antimicrobial composition;

applying the recycled composition at a second washing position in poultry processing;
the second washing position preceding the first washing position.

34. (Original) The method of claim 33, further comprising applying the recycled composition to poultry during processing.

35. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein the mixture of peroxycarboxylic acids comprises peroxyacetic acid and peroxyoctanoic acid.

36. (Original) The method of claim 35, wherein the mixture of peroxycarboxylic acids comprises about 30 to about 60 weight-% acetic acid, about 1 to about 15 weight-% octanoic acid, about 2 to about 12 weight-% hydrogen peroxide, about 6 to about 16 weight-% peroxyacetic acid, and about 0.1 to about 5 weight-% peroxyoctanoic acid, and about 0.1 to about 2 weight-% chelating agent.

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37. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein the recycled mixed peroxycarboxylic acid antimicrobial composition comprises:

at least about 2 ppm of one or more mono- or di-peroxycarboxylic acids having up to 6 carbon atoms; and

at least 0.5 ppm of one or more carboxylic acids having up to 12 carbon atoms.

38. (Original) The method of claim 37, wherein the recycled mixed peroxycarboxylic acid composition comprises one or more peroxycarboxylic acids having from 2 to 6 carbon atoms and a peroxycarboxylic acid having from 7 to 12 carbon atoms.

39. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein the composition was previously applied by a carcass wash or rinse.

40. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein the composition was previously applied by an inside-outside bird wash.

41-50. (Canceled)

51. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33, wherein the recovered composition is treated by straining the recovered composition, filtering the recovered composition, or diluting the recovered composition.

52. (Canceled)

53. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33, comprising recovering composition from at least one of submersion scalding, dress rinsing, inside-outside bird washing, spray rinsing, and submersion chilling.

54. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33, comprising:
recovering composition from submersion chilling; and

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applying the treated and recovered composition in at least one of submersion scalding, dress rinsing, inside-outside bird washing, and spray rinsing.

55. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33, comprising:
recovering composition from spray rinsing; and
applying the treated and recovered composition in at least one of submersion scalding, dress rinsing, and inside-outside bird washing.

56. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33, comprising:
recovering composition from inside-outside bird washing; and
applying the treated and recovered composition in at least one of submersion scalding and dress rinsing.

57. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 33, comprising:
recovering composition from dress rinsing; and
applying the treated and recovered composition ~~in at least one of~~ submersion scalding.

58-59. (Canceled)